

City of Chattanooga, TN
Personnel Class Specification

Class code 0634

FLSA: Non-Exempt

CLASSIFICATION TITLE: PLANT OPERATOR, SENIOR

PURPOSE OF CLASSIFICATION

The purpose of this classification is to perform specialized work associated with operation/maintenance of wastewater treatment plant systems, including primary systems, secondary systems, and pump stations, and to provide relieve coverage for computer/operating process control room and oxygen plant systems.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The following duties are normal for this position. These are not to be construed as exclusive or all-inclusive. Other duties may be required and assigned.

Operates, maintains, and monitors wastewater treatment plant primary systems, secondary systems, and pump stations; provides relief/backup coverage for computer/operating process control room and oxygen plant systems.

Operates, maintains, and monitors wastewater treatment plant biosolids dewatering systems and their associated unit processes; monitors and inspects plant equipment; collects and analyzes biosolids and wastewater samples; receives incoming chemicals and monitors their unloading and usage; calculates and maintains data associated with the treatment plant processes.

Monitors and inspects plant equipment and operations for safety, maintenance and proper process operations; identifies potential problems; makes adjustments as appropriate; tests and responds to all alarms; reports problem situations.

Monitors septic tank trucks, samplers, manholes, and storm stations; troubleshoots station operations; monitors chemical feeds for proper levels and adjusts feed rates as appropriate.

Collects wastewater samples for analysis.

Performs various tasks related to plant operations, which may include inspecting/testing equipment, draining gas traps, checking fire extinguishers, placing clarifiers in/out of service, priming clarivacs, cleaning roto-mat, changing chlorine tanks, adjusting valves, cleaning samplers, cleaning influent wet well, transferring sludge, cleaning digester covers, cleaning bar screens, cleaning scum from channel, cleaning weeds from basins, maintaining basins, cleaning weeds from thickeners and

clarifiers, cutting grass/weeds, blowing leaves/debris, and lifting/moving heavy materials.

Assists in operating oxygen plant to produce high purity oxygen for treatment of activated sludge; monitors and maintains the activated sludge process; controls main air compressors and distillation column to produce oxygen gas and liquid; distributes liquid oxygen to storage tanks for backup use and emergency needs; controls valve positions, turbine speed and temperature regulation; analyzes water in cooling tower.

Assists in monitoring treatment plant telemetry systems, including lift stations, overflow sites, storm stations, CSO station, and related systems; monitors alarms, notifying appropriate personnel of alarm situations or making changes as appropriate; monitors TVA phone and initiates emergency shutdown plan in the event of a power curtailment; remotely starts/stops influent pumps by flow demand; starts/stops and adjusts pumping rates to facilitate pumping sludge to de-watering systems; adjusts flow of wastewater through secondary treatment process; maintains balanced flow rates through activated sludge system and secondary clarification.

Assists in monitoring graphic display panels for equipment and pump stations comparatively with computer graphic display to verify validity; reviews data received by plant computer and adjusts process controls as appropriate.

Operates various machinery, equipment and tools in performance of assigned duties, which may include a utility vehicle, influent pump station, pumps, control panels, air compressor, cooling tower, flow control gates, centrifugal blowers, laboratory equipment, balance, ovens, desiccator, generator, filter press, grit removal system, heat exchanger system, clarifiers, primary clarification system, turbine expander, anaerobic digester, hoist, hydrocarbon detector, dewpoint analyzer, lime slaker, conveyor system, vaporizer, valves, meters, gauges, chemical feeder, weedeater, blower, rake, pitchfork, pick, shovel, testing kits, and mechanic tools.

Performs scheduled preventive maintenance tasks.

Performs general cleaning/maintenance tasks necessary to keep buildings, vehicles, equipment, and tools in operable condition, which may include inspecting equipment, checking fluid levels, replacing fluids, greasing equipment, replacing parts, washing/cleaning equipment, and cleaning shop/work areas; monitors equipment operations to maintain efficiency and safety; reports faulty equipment.

Utilizes precautionary safety equipment and monitors work environment to ensure safety of employees and other individuals.

Maintains inventory of chemicals, supplies, tools and equipment; initiates requests for new or replacement materials.

Takes readings from assorted meters/gauges; reads, interprets and records a variety of data.

Maintains logs and records of test results, meter readings, chemical applications, and other data; changes charts; compiles data and submits reports in compliance with applicable guidelines.

Operates a computer for use in making work orders, monitoring plant operations, maintaining tank levels, and conducting other work activities; transfers data between computer systems as appropriate; reports hardware/software problems.

Prepares or completes various forms, correspondence, reports, logs, work orders, and other documents.

Receives various forms, reports, logs, manuals, or other documentation; reviews, processes, forwards or retains as appropriate.

Communicates with supervisor, employees, other departments, the public, and other individuals as needed to coordinate work activities, review status of work, exchange information, or resolve problems.

Responds to complaints about odors; provides information, researches problems, and initiates problem resolution.

Communicates via telephone and/or two-way radio; provides information and assistance; takes and relays messages or directs calls to appropriate personnel; returns calls as necessary.

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS

Provides assistance to other employees or departments as needed.

Performs other related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

High school diploma or GED; supplemented by vocational/technical training in water/wastewater treatment plant operations; supplemented by one (1) year previous experience and/or training involving water/wastewater treatment plant operations; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. May be required to possess and maintain a valid Grade III Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification. Must possess and maintain a valid Tennessee Driver's License.

PERFORMANCE APTITUDES

Data Utilization: Requires the ability to review, classify, categorize, prioritize, and/or analyze data. Includes exercising discretion in determining data classification, and in referencing such analysis to established standards for the purpose of recognizing actual or probable interactive effects and relationships.

Human Interaction: Requires the ability to apply principles of persuasion and/or influence over others in a supervisory capacity.

Equipment, Machinery, Tools, and Materials Utilization: Requires the ability to operate, maneuver and/or control the actions of equipment, machinery, tools, and/or materials used in performing essential functions.

Verbal Aptitude: Requires the ability to utilize a wide variety of reference and descriptive data and information.

Mathematical Aptitude: Requires the ability to perform addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; the ability to calculate decimals and percentages; the ability to utilize principles of fractions; and the ability to interpret graphs.

Functional Reasoning: Requires the ability to apply principles of rational systems; to interpret instructions furnished in written, oral, diagrammatic, or schedule form; and to exercise independent judgment to adopt or modify methods and standards to meet variations in assigned objectives.

Situational Reasoning: Requires the ability to exercise judgment, decisiveness and creativity in situations involving evaluation of information against measurable or verifiable criteria.

ADA COMPLIANCE

Physical Ability: Tasks require the regular and, at times, sustained performance of moderately physically demanding work, typically involving some combination of climbing and balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, and crawling, and that may involve the lifting, carrying, pushing, and/or pulling of moderately heavy objects and materials (20-50 pounds).

Sensory Requirements: Some tasks require the ability to perceive and discriminate colors or shades of colors, sounds, odor, depth, texture, and visual cues or signals. Some tasks require the ability to communicate orally.

Environmental Factors: Performance of essential functions may require exposure to adverse environmental conditions, such as dirt, dust, pollen, odors, wetness, humidity, rain, fumes, temperature and noise extremes, machinery, vibrations, electric currents, traffic hazards, toxic agents, disease, or pathogenic substances.

Chattanooga, Tennessee, is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.

Last edited: August 2003